

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed February 7, 2007. Claims 1-4, 6-14, 19-31, and 34-36 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 19, and 24 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action for all pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-4, 6-14, 19-31, and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Office Action contends that the limitation “isolating the delay timer from the network” of Claims 1, 19, and 24 is unsupported by the Specification. *See Final Office Action*, Page 4. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons described below.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, states: “The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process or making and using it, in such full, clear, concise and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most clearly connected, to make and use the same. . .” “To satisfy the written description requirement, a patent specification must describe the claimed invention in sufficient detail that one skilled in the art can reasonably conclude that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention.” *See* M.P.E.P. § 2163(I).

Applicant respectfully submits that given the Specification, one skilled in the art would reasonably conclude that the Applicant had possession of a communication module comprising a delay timer operable to be isolated from a network, as described in Claims 1, 19, and 24. For example, Figure 1 and Pages 7-11 of the Specification clearly describe delay timer 103 as part of communication module 101 and that delay timer 103 may be isolated from the network in conjunction with isolating communication module 101 from the network.

The Final Office Action rejects this contention stating that the phrase “operably coupled” in Claims 1, 19, and 24 suggests that that delay timer and the communication module are separate and distinct. *See Final Office Action*, Page 3. Although Applicant respectfully disagrees, in order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 19, and 24 to recite “the communication module including a delay timer.” With regard to a particular embodiment, Page 7, lines 29-31 of the Specification provide support for this amendment by stating: “**Communication module 101 includes** a

communication port 104 for communicating with a network 106 and **a delay timer 103 that includes a delay time interval**” (emphasis added).

The Final Office Action also contends that the Specification and Figure 1 disclose that “the communication module 101 is separate and distinct from the delay timer 103,” and therefore there is no support for isolating the delay timer. The Examiner appears to have mistakenly determined that the irregularly shaped box 101 in Figure 1 illustrating communication module 101 including delay timer 103 and communication port 104 (“Communication module 101 includes a communication port 104 . . . and a delay timer 103”) indicates that delay timer 103 and communication port 104 are not included in communication module 101. This is incorrect for at least two reasons. First, as explained above, Page 7, lines 29-31 of the Specification clearly describe communication module 101 as **including** a delay timer 103. Thus, it cannot be disputed that the Specification supports an embodiment in which delay timer 103 is included within communication module 101, whether or not the Specification also supports another embodiment in which the delay timer is not included within the communication module 101.

Second, Page 8, lines 15-17 of the Specification state: “Though illustrated as separate components, system 100 may be integrated into a single electronic device.” Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Specification describes the claimed invention in sufficient detail such that one skilled in the art can reasonably conclude that the Applicant had possession of the claimed invention, thus satisfying the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-14, 19-31, and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

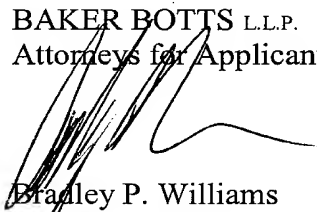
Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6447.

Applicant believes no fees are due. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant



Bradley P. Williams
Reg. No. 40, 227

Date: _____

3/20/07

Correspondence Address:

Customer Number: **05073**